

REMARKSDrawing

A marked copy of Fig. 1 is submitted herewith proposing a drawing change for approval by the Examiner. In particular, Fig. 1 is renumbered to provide a reference number for every element shown in this Figure.

Specification

The specification is amended to correct informalities, to more completely describe what the drawing figures illustrate, to insert reference numerals in the specification where they are lacking, and to correct inconsistencies between the reference numerals on the drawing figures and those used in the specification.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102

Attorney for Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 1, 2 and 10 as anticipated by Huang et al (US Patent 5,962,992).

The Office Action asserts that Huang, in column 5, line 66-column 6, line 2 and in column 9, lines 20-31, teaches the steps recited in claims 1 and 2 of:

- associating, one by one, each of the plural lighting devices with the remote control, and

- associating, one by one, each of the plural lighting devices associated with the remote control with at least one of a particular function and a particular key on the remote control.

To the contrary, these portions of Huang relate to how desired configurations can be programmed, saved and restored. They fail to disclose or suggest anything relevant to the claimed steps of associating plural lighting devices with a remote control and of associating such lighting devices with a particular function or a particular key on the remote control.

With respect to claim 10, the Office Action refers to column 27, lines 45-64 as anticipating the recited claim step for associating each of plural slave devices with a master remote control. To the contrary, the portion of Huang referred to does not describe association of slave devices with a master remote control, but rather to the installation of a slave unit into a system including a master controller 100 and a zone controller 110. Both of these controllers appear to be hardwired to the slave unit. There is no mention of associating plural slave devices with a master remote control.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Attorney for Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection of claims 5-7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Huang in

view Alt et al (US Patent 5,936,362). Contrary to what is stated in the Office Action, Huang at column 6, lines 35-45 does not teach a processor for providing commands to a plurality of lighting devices in a normal mode. Rather, it merely refers to different configurations for CPU 210. There is no mention in this portion of Huang of either lighting devices or a normal mode. Nor is there any mention in Huang at column 9, lines 17-30 of switching between an enumeration mode and a normal mode, where the enumeration mode is utilized to associate plural lighting devices with apparatus for controlling the plural lighting devices. Further, as noted in the Office Action, Huang et al is silent as to providing commands to a plurality of lighting devices over a wireless connection. To overcome this omission, the Office Action cites Alt et al as teaching the transmission of commands to lighting devices over a wireless connection by a computer. It is questionable whether Huang and Alt can be successfully combined, but even if this is possible they do not suggest all of the limitations in claim 5 or of claims 6 and 7.

The rejection of claims 3-4 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being unpatentable of Huang et al in view of Alt et al and further in view of Hartzell (US Patent 6,163,275) is respectfully traversed for at least the reasons that are already stated with respect to parent claim 1.

The rejection of claims 8, 9, 17, 19 and 20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Huang in view of Mitchell (US Patent 5,847,955) is respectfully traversed for at least the reason that, contrary to what is stated in the Office Action, the sections of Huang referred to fail to teach or suggest:

- a standardized command set for facilitating command and control between a master device and plural slave lighting devices;
- the binding of the plural slave lighting devices and the master device via software.

The rejection of claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as unpatentable over Huang et al in view of Mitchell and further in view of Grouev et al (US Patent 6,333,605) is respectfully traversed for at least the same reasons as have already been stated with respect to the rejection of parent claim 10.

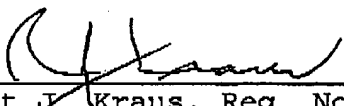
The rejection of claims 12, 13 and 14, insofar as they are based on Huang et al, are traversed for at least the same reasons that are already set forth with respect to the rejection of parent claim 1. The rejection of claims 15 and 16, insofar as they are based on Huang et al, are traversed for at least the same reasons as set forth with respect to the rejection of parent claim 5.

The rejection of claim 18, insofar as it is based on Huang et al, this traversed for at least the same reasons as have already been set forth with respect to the rejection of parent claim 8.

Concluding remarks

In view of the foregoing amendments and comments, it is submitted that all claims in the application are patentable over the prior art and that the application is in condition for allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

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09/841,665
Marked Sheet Showing Proposed Changes
1/4

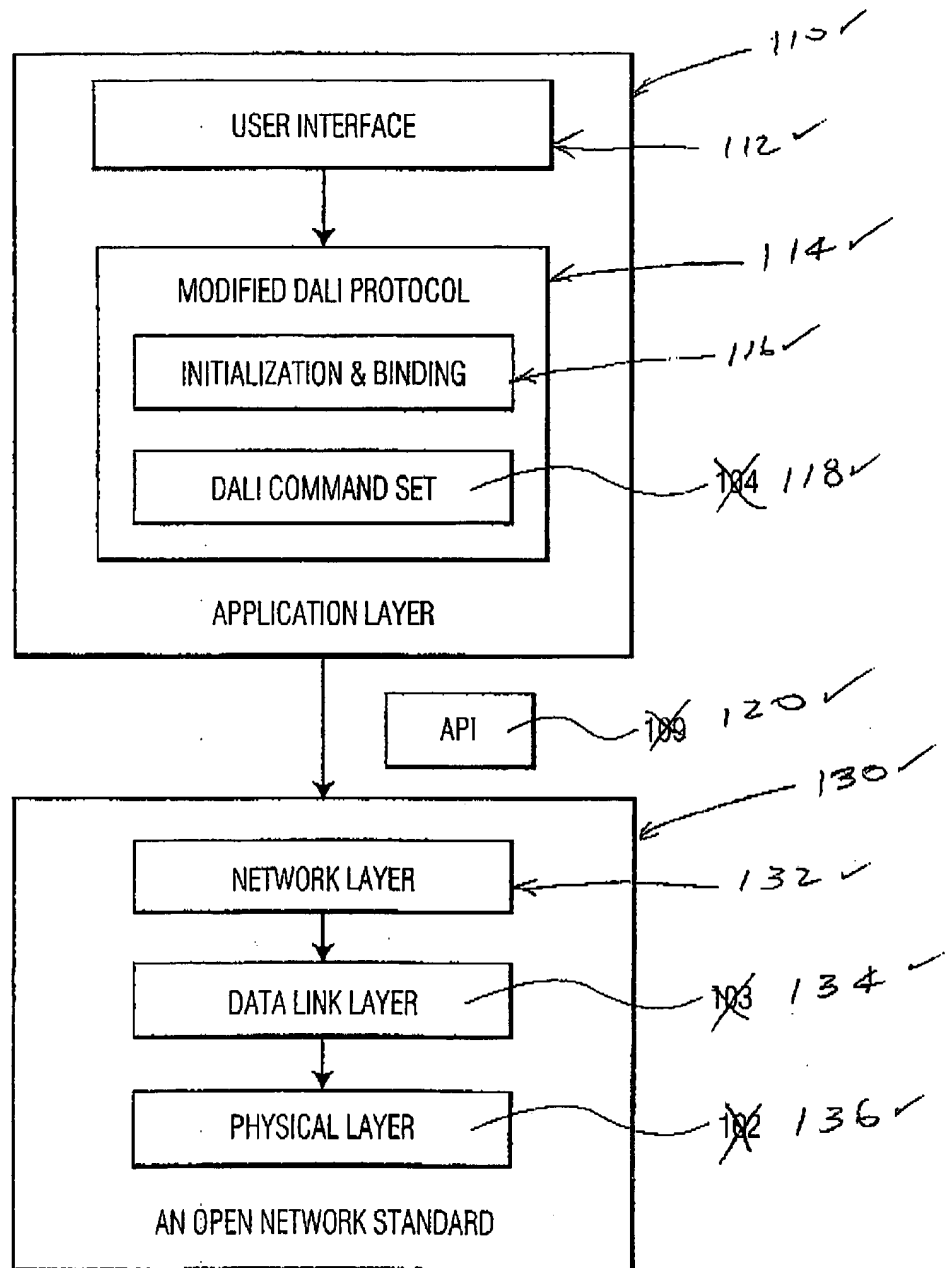


FIG. 1